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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. National Phase Application Corresponding To:

PCT Application: PCT/US99/01087
International
Filing Date: 12 JAN 1999
Applicant: Peter J. Sims et al.
Title: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS TO ALTER TISSUE
SUSCEPTIBILITY TO IMMUNE INJURY, TO PROGRAMMED
CELL DEATH, AND TO CLEARANCE BY THE
RETICULOENDOTHELIAL SYSTEM
Atty. Docket No.: 160180.90121

BOX PCT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified U.S. national phase application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendment be entered.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

21. (Amended) The methods of claim 19 [claims 19 or 20] wherein the level of PL scramblase RNA is measured by *in situ* hybridization or Northern blotting with PL scramblase cDNA or by the polymerase chain reaction using oligonucleotide primers based on sequence of human PL scramblase cDNA.

22. (Amended) The method of claim 19 [claims 19 or 20] wherein the level of PL scramblase protein is measured by immunofluorescence, flow cytometry, Western blotting, radioimmunoassay, or by ELISA assay using antibody that specifically binds PL scramblase protein.